

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 16246 080901Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----011329 080904Z /12  
R 080857Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1062

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16246

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PEPR, JA, US  
SUBJECT: INQUIRY CONCERNING FILM OF WAR CRIMES TRIALS

1. 1ST NORTH AMERICA DIVISION DIRECTOR WATANABE CALLED EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 7 TO MAKE INFORMAL INQUIRY CONCERNING WAR CRIMES TRIAL FILM. PERSONAL FRIEND OF WATANABE, WHO IS OFFICIAL OF FUJI-TV, TOLD HIM GROUP OF JAPANESE RECENTLY APPROACHED FUJI OFFERING TO SELL ENTIRE MOTION PICTURE RECORD OF TOKYO WAR CRIMES TRIALS, ALLEGEDLY INCLUDING EXECUTIONS OF SOME CLASS B WAR CRIMINALS. FILM, SAID TO FILL 593 REELS, WAS ALLEGEDLY PURCHASED FROM PENTAGON FOLLOWING ITS PUBLIC RELEASE IN 1973. FUJI IS INTERESTED IN BUYING FILM, WHICH IT WOULD EDIT SEVERELY (RUNNING TIME IS SAID TO BE 100 HOURS) FOR USE AS DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL. HOWEVER, COMPANY WISHES TO BE ASSURED ITS USE OF FILM WOULD NOT CAUSE ANY LEGAL PROBLEMS WITH USG. WATANABE WOULD APPRECIATE AN INFORMAL READING FOR HIS FRIEND. AT SAME TIME, HE IS NO MORE ANXIOUS THAN WE TO HAVE TELEVISED DEPICTIONS OF U.S. FIRING SQUADS IN ACTION.

2. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR LOOKING INTO THIS. WERE HUNDREDS OF HOURS OF WAR CRIME FOOTAGE RELEASED BY DOD AND  
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SOLD TO INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS? WERE EXECUTIONS FILMED AND DO THOSE FILMS STILL EXIST? IF FILMS WERE SOLD, WERE ANY CONDITIONS IMPOSED CONCERNING THEIR SUBSEQUENT USE?

3. INQUIRY SHOULD BE TREATED WITH SENSITIVITY IN VIEW OF PROPRIETRY COMMERCIAL ASPECT, INFORMAL NATURE OF WATANABE

MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FILMS, WAR CRIMES, TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TOKYO16246  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** INQUIRY CONCERNING FILM OF WAR CRIMES TRIALS  
**TAGS:** PEPR, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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